

RITES experts for UK rail network

359. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a major British engineering company has entered into an agreement with Rail India Technical Engineering Services (RITES) for engaging Indian Railway experts for working in railways in Britain, if so, Government's reaction in this regard;
- (b) the number of experts and the period for which they have been engaged; and
- (c) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVUAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Two UK Companies and one Consortium of two UK companies have entered into agreements with RITES for engaging Indian Railways experts for working on Railway projects in Britain.

The Ministry of Railways has no objection to RITES deploying Railway experts for this purpose.

- (b) 10 experts have gone to Britain for 6 to 12 months. 64 experts have also gone to Sharjah to work in the off-shore office of two of the above Companies, for a period of about 12 months, carrying out work related to the Railway project in Britain.
- (c) The period of engagement and demand for experts is likely to increase. The work in Britain relates to signaling and electrification upgradation of their Railway System.